

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

STR-08 DRC-01 /196 W

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R 192330Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1885

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AS, NZ

SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER KIRK'S SPEECH ON
AUSTRALIAN-NEW ZEALAND COOPERATION

1. SUMMARY: NEW ZEALAND PM'S LUNCHEON SPEECH NOVEMBER 15 TO
MELBOURNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND RELATED VICTORIAN BUSINESS
ORGANIZATIONS DURING ONE-DAY VISIT TO MELBOURNE GENERALLY
SET RIGHT TONE FOR BUSINESS AUDIENCE IN STRESSING A-NZ ECONOMIC
COOPERATION. HE DEVIATED FROM PREPARED TEXT TO TOUCH BRIEFLY
ON SPECIFIC MEANS OF CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN THESE TWO
COUNTRIES AS WELL AS WITH SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND REGION. END
SUMMARY.

2. KIRK'S LOW-KEY STYLE CONVEYED SINCERITY; SHOWED GOOD GRASP
OF ECONOMIC DATA; AND HELPED A-NZ COOPERATIVE SPIRIT BY
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TELLING AUDIENCES SOMETHING OF WHAT IT WANTED TO HEAR.

3. PRIME MINISTER KIRK COMENDED RESULTS OF WHITLAM-KIRK MEETINGS, DWELT ON IMPORTANCE OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INCLUDING TRADE AND AID TO LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND WELCOMED THE "WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY DR. KISSINGER." HE SAID AUSTRALIAN AND NZ GOVERNMENTS WILL GIVE "URGENT ATTENTION IN THE COMING MONTHS" TO THE "COORDINATION OF POLICIES" IN THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT, AND THAT BOTH COUNTRIES ARE ALREADY WORKING WITH THE "ISLAND NATIONS" IN SUCH REGIONAL STRUCTURES AS THE SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM. KIRK CITED A-NZ'S "GOOD REPUTATION AND EASY RELATIONSHIPS WITH MANY COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD," THEN CONCLUDED THAT "WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN WE ARE ALONE, TOGETHER, IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD." (PREPARED TEXT BEING POUCHED.)

4. IN DEVIATIONS FROM PREPARED SPEECH, KIRK PLEDGED INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY TO COUNTER INFLATION (BEYOND THAT WHICH MIGHT BE IMPORTED FROM OUTSIDE THE REGION); SPOKE PROUDLY OF "COMMON WORK FORCE" ACHIEVED BY RECENT AGREEMENT ON FREE MOVEMENT OF CITIZENS BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (APPARENTLY REFERRING TO RECENT AGREEMENTS PERMITTING FREE ENTRY INTO AUSTRALIA BY MAORIS AS WELL AS NATURALIZED NEW ZEALAND CITIZENS; PRAISED PLANNED EXCHANGE OF GOVERNMENT TRADE AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS; AND ANTICIPATED GREATER COOPERATION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IN TRANSPORT AND ENERGY FIELDS.

5. PRIMEMINISTER KIRK IMPRESSED HIS LISTENERS IN MELBOURNE WHO FOUND SPEECH EDUCATIONAL EVEN THOUGH THEY MAY NOT HAVE COMPREHENDED THE POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS OF STATED RESOLVE TO SHAPE RELATIONSHIPS REFLECTING THE SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THESE TWO GOVERNMENTS. AUDIENCE SENSED NO INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN KIRK'S BROAD CALL FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION AND HIS STRESS ON REGIONAL SELF-INTEREST.
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